

May, 1920

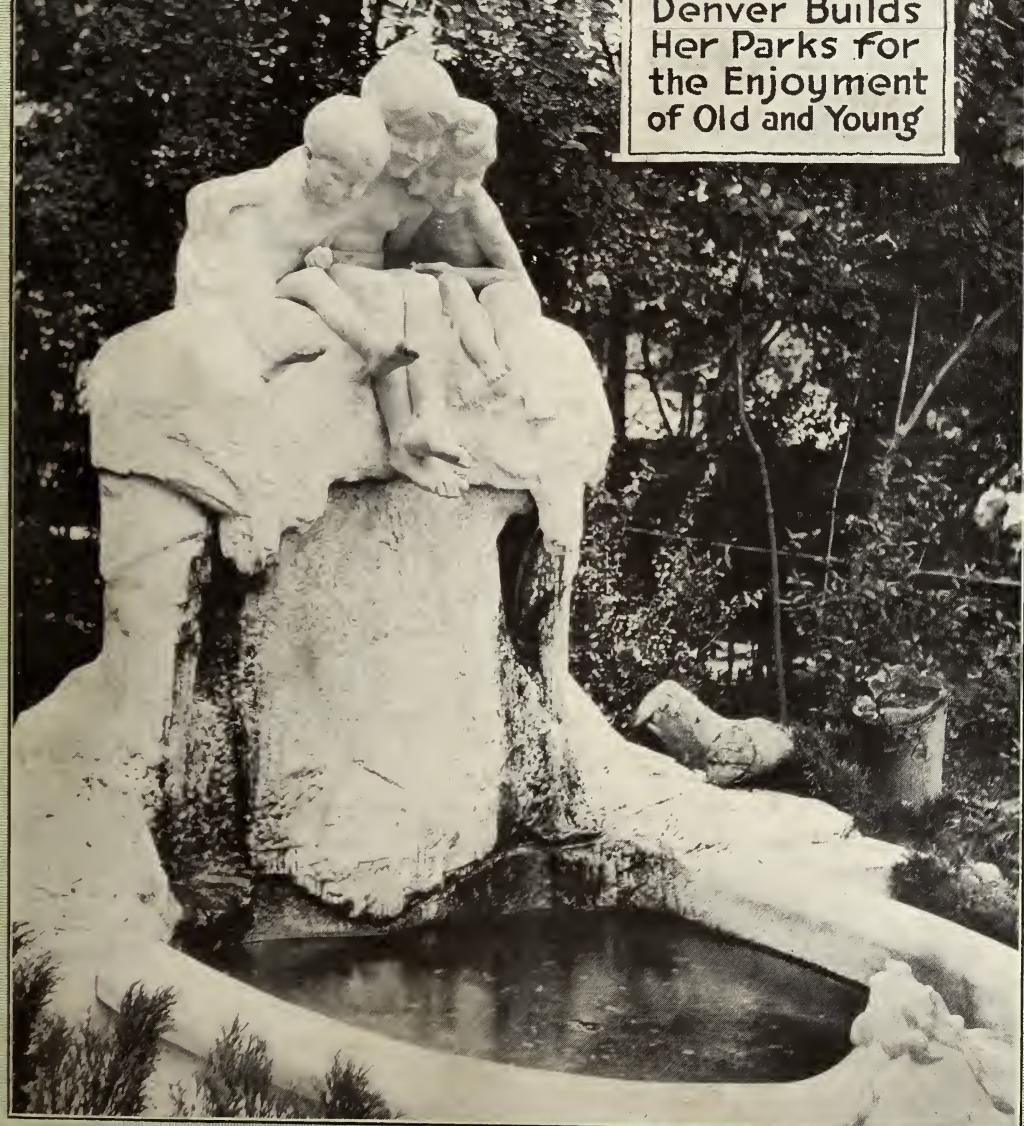
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The American City

CHILDREN'S FOUNTAIN
• DENVER •

Denver Builds
Her Parks for
the Enjoyment
of Old and Young





Camp Grounds for Lincoln Highway Tourists

By Thomas B. Reid

Supervisor, Tama County, Tama, Iowa

ONE mile west of Tama, directly adjacent to the Lincoln Highway on the banks of a beautiful little creek, The Commercial Club of Tama has provided a free camping ground for Lincoln Highway tourists. It came about in this way: Living directly on the Lincoln Highway, we have seen thousands of tourists pass in the hot, dusty season of the year with no place in which to rest and cool off, and no provision of any kind for their comfort and convenience. The writer felt that this was not in keeping with the county's reputation for hospitality, so he took it up with a number of his friends in Tama and with Mr. Carmichael, the owner of the land. The discussion of the problem brought out the need for some place where tourists might make temporary camps, open their lunch baskets, prepare their meals, and perhaps set up their tents for the night away from the dusty roads—for, unfortunately, the road is still dusty, as we have not yet been able to arrange to have it properly paved.

After due consideration, the site of the

beautiful walnut grove shown in the accompanying illustration was selected as a suitable place. We have provided a well, a stove, and a toilet, and expect to build a couple of brick ovens next season and supply the necessary wood for camp cooking. The Club does not expect to provide any buildings, as the campers who stay all night are usually equipped with tents, and in bad weather can find accommodations at the hotels in Tama.

It should be noted that the large signboard in the foreground calls attention to the fact that all the facilities are free. The camping grounds could easily have been made to yield a little revenue, but the men who donated the money were of the opinion that the good will to be purchased by the provision of these facilities without charge was of greater value to the community than the slight revenue that might be derived. The expressions of appreciation and the favorable comments generally that have come to them as a result of the free camping grounds seem to bear them out in their belief.